

HSU: Your Source for Animal Disaster Training

HUMANE SOCIETY UNIVERSITY (HSU), THE education and training division of The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), is the premier resource for Disaster Animal Response and Emergency Animal Sheltering training. These intensive workshops are held year-round at locations across the country for those interested in learning how to rescue and shelter animals affected by disasters. Participants then bring the skills they've learned back to their communities. The trainings are ideal for those in the animal sheltering, welfare, and control fields, as well as those who do animal fostering. Please note that the trainings cannot be conducted in a shorter time frame.



Disaster Animal Response Training

THIS INTRODUCTORY COURSE IS DESIGNED TO familiarize participants with common disaster situations and teach them how to be effective emergency animal relief responders. The class includes two days of classroom and hands-on instruction and a half-day of tabletop exercises. Graduates will have a solid understanding of appropriate disaster response for animals and be in a position to help develop disaster animal response teams in their communities.

Course Topics

- Introduction to animals in disaster
- Animal care and handling
- Animal rescue and transport
- Incident Command System (ICS)
- Legal issues
- Safety
- Communications
- Taking care of the team
- Community animal needs
- Damage assessment
- Team response and procedures
- Emergency animal shelters



Emergency Animal Sheltering (EAS)

BUILDING ON THE FOUNDATION OF THE DISASTER Animal Response Training, the EAS course is intended to prepare volunteers to serve at emergency shelters helping animals evacuated or displaced in the event of a disaster. The information covered in this course is vital for dealing with any large-scale animal sheltering operation. The EAS training includes two days of classroom instruction and hands-on training to give students an opportunity to practice new skills using practical scenarios.

Course Topics

- Introduction to disaster and emergency management
- Community planning
- Types of emergency shelters for animals
- Meeting animals' needs
- Logistics
- Human resources
- Worker health and safety
- Administrative/legal issues
- Media/public relations
- Closing the shelter



Host a Workshop

SPONSORING ONE OF THESE workshops is easy—to find out how, contact Melanie Froemke, disaster services training manager, at mfroemke@humanesociety.org.